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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Paul Collier: The "bottom billion" | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/paul_collier_the_bottom_billion

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

stagnant

adj. not flowing or circulating; standing still; stagnant water

synonym: still, unmoving, moribund

(1) **stagnant** car sales, (2) **stagnant** economy

The **stagnant** water in the pond is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

diverge

v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

synonym: separate, split, part

(1) **diverge** from tradition, (2) **diverge** from the main topic

As tectonic plates **diverge**, new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym: educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

divergence

n. the act or process of separating and moving in different directions; a difference or variance between two or more things or ideas; a deviation from a common or shared path or goal

synonym : divergency, deviation, discrepancy

(1) **divergence** angle, (2) ideological **divergence**

The **divergence** in opinions among the team members led to a delay in completing the project.

glob

n. a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance

synonym : ball, lump, sphere

(1) **glob** of paint, (2) **glob** of honey

She squeezed a **glob** of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.

postwar

adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

synonym : subsequent, aftermath

(1) **postwar** years, (2) **postwar** society

The **postwar** period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.

bloc

n. a group of countries or political parties that have similar interests or goals and often act together

synonym : group, alliance, coalition

(1) **bloc** countries, (2) a **bloc** of developing nations

The country decided to join the economic **bloc** to benefit from the trade agreements.

marshal

n. a military officer of high rank or a person in charge of organizing or leading a parade or public event; a law enforcement official or officer responsible for maintaining order and enforcing regulations; (verb) to organize, arrange, or gather together resources, information, or people in a deliberate and systematic manner

synonym : general, commander, organizer

(1) **marshal** the books into their proper places, (2) deputy **marshal**

The event organizer appointed a professional **marshal** to manage the flow of traffic.

protectionist

adj. relating to or advocating for policies that protect domestic industries from foreign competition through tariffs, trade barriers, or restrictions on imports; (noun) someone who believes in and promotes such policies

synonym : isolationist, nationalist

(1) **protectionist** ideology, (2) **protectionist** agenda

The government implemented **protectionist** policies to promote domestic industries.

aft

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

liberalize

v. to make something more liberal, open, or permissive, typically in terms of laws, regulations, or social practices, allowing greater freedom, flexibility, or tolerance

synonym : liberate, relax, loosen

(1) **liberalize** drug laws, (2) **liberalize** regulations

The government decided to **liberalize** trade policies to boost economic growth.

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym : group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer

The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

commandment

n. a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority

synonym : law, edict, precept

(1) violate a **commandment**, (2) a religious **commandment**

He was punished because he contravened a **commandment** of God.

sacrosanct

adj. considered to be holy and deserving of respect and reverence

synonym : sacred, inviolable, holy

(1) **sacrosanct** tradition, (2) **sacrosanct** belief

The tradition of the annual family reunion is **sacrosanct** and must be upheld.

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym : positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

guinea

n. a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic

synonym : coin, money, currency

(1) **guinea** coins, (2) **guinea** pig

The cost of the antique vase is three **guineas**.

dwarf

n. a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star

synonym: midget, lilliputian, pygmy

(1) a potted **dwarf** tree, (2) a wise old **dwarf**

The **dwarf** planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

accrue

v. (of a benefit or sum of money) to increase or accumulate in number or amount over a period of time

synonym: increase, accumulate, amass

(1) **accrue** to the general treasury, (2) benefits **accrue** to the community

Two-percent interest will **accrue** on your savings account.

confine

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

synonym: restrict, limit, contain

(1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use

The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

autocracy

n. a form of government in which one person has unlimited power and authority; a system of government in which a ruler or ruling class holds absolute power and controls all aspects of society

synonym: dictatorship, tyranny, authoritarianism

(1) fight against **autocracy**, (2) absolute **autocracy**

An **autocracy** with no democratic system in a place ruled the country.

elector

n. a person who has the right to vote in an election

synonym: voter, constituent, citizen

(1) presidential **elector**, (2) qualified for an **elector**

The **elector** cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

reformer

n. a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it

synonym: inciter, innovator, agitator

(1) education **reformer**, (2) catalytic **reformer**

He is regarded as a passionate social **reformer**.

treasury

n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual

synonym: coffer, exchequer, bank

(1) **treasury** bonds, (2) **treasury** money

The protracted war nearly depleted the country's **treasury**.

promulgate

v. to make known or announce officially; to publicly declare or communicate a law, rule, belief, or idea

synonym: announce, proclaim, declare

(1) **promulgate** guidelines, (2) **promulgate** new regulations

The government issued a decree to **promulgate** new laws regarding environmental conservation.

alarming

adj. causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing

synonym: forbidding, concerning, disturbing

(1) **alarming** news, (2) **alarming** statistics

The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite **alarming**.

efface

v. to erase or obliterate something completely; to make something disappear or become less prominent

synonym: erase, delete, wipe out

(1) **efface** a memory, (2) **efface** a blemish

The cleaning crew had to **efface** the stubborn stain from the carpet using a specialized cleaner

collier

n. a coal miner or worker in the coal industry; a ship that transports coal

synonym: miner, digger, excavator

(1) **collier's** job, (2) **collier** factory

The town's economy was largely dependent on the **collier** industry.

charismatic

adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

synonym: mesmerizing, alluring, captivating

(1) **charismatic** chairman, (2) **charismatic** personality

He was a **charismatic** leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| 1. di____e from tradition | v. | to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course |
| 2. b__c countries | n. | a group of countries or political parties that have similar interests or goals and often act together |
| 3. absolute au____cy | n. | a form of government in which one person has unlimited power and authority; a system of government in which a ruler or ruling class holds absolute power and controls all aspects of society |
| 4. a religious com____nt | n. | a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority |
| 5. benefits ac___e to the community | v. | (of a benefit or sum of money) to increase or accumulate in number or amount over a period of time |
| 6. lib____ze regulations | v. | to make something more liberal, open, or permissive, typically in terms of laws, regulations, or social practices, allowing greater freedom, flexibility, or tolerance |
| 7. pro____ist ideology | adj. | relating to or advocating for policies that protect domestic industries from foreign competition through tariffs, trade barriers, or restrictions on imports; (noun) someone who believes in and promotes such policies |

ANSWERS: 1. diverge, 2. bloc, 3. autocracy, 4. commandment, 5. accrue, 6. liberalize, 7. protectionist

8. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
9. ef___e a blemish *v.* to erase or obliterate something completely; to make something disappear or become less prominent
10. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
11. violate a com_____nt *n.* a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority
12. ma_____l the books into their proper places *n.* a military officer of high rank or a person in charge of organizing or leading a parade or public event; a law enforcement official or officer responsible for maintaining order and enforcing regulations; (verb) to organize, arrange, or gather together resources, information, or people in a deliberate and systematic manner
13. ef___e a memory *v.* to erase or obliterate something completely; to make something disappear or become less prominent
14. the members of a military tr__p *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
15. sac_____ct belief *adj.* considered to be holy and deserving of respect and reverence
16. cha_____ic personality *adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

ANSWERS: 8. optimism, 9. efface, 10. industrious, 11. commandment, 12. marshal, 13. efface, 14. troop, 15. sacrosanct, 16. charismatic

17. div_____ce angle *n.* the act or process of separating and moving in different directions; a difference or variance between two or more things or ideas; a deviation from a common or shared path or goal
18. al_____ng statistics *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
19. po_____r years *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
20. a tr__p of deer *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
21. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. tr_____ry bonds *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
23. di_____e from the main topic *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
24. co_____e the scope of use *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
25. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

ANSWERS: 17. divergence, 18. alarming, 19. postwar, 20. troop, 21. opportune, 22. treasury, 23. diverge, 24. confine, 25. sentimental

26. po____r society *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
27. pro_____te new regulations *v.* to make known or announce officially; to publicly declare or communicate a law, rule, belief, or idea
28. st_____nt car sales *adj.* not flowing or circulating; standing still; stagnant water
29. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
30. cha_____ic chairman *adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
31. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
32. catalytic re_____er *n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
33. education re_____er *n.* a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it
34. ac___e to the general treasury *v.* (of a benefit or sum of money) to increase or accumulate in number or amount over a period of time
35. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
36. co_____r factory *n.* a coal miner or worker in the coal industry; a ship that transports coal

ANSWERS: 26. postwar, 27. promulgate, 28. stagnant, 29. industrious, 30. charismatic, 31. sentimental, 32. reformer, 33. reformer, 34. accrue, 35. moth, 36. collier

37. co____r's job *n.* a coal miner or worker in the coal industry; a ship that transports coal
38. absolutely dis____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
39. g__b of paint *n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
40. a b__c of developing nations *n.* a group of countries or political parties that have similar interests or goals and often act together
41. st____nt economy *adj.* not flowing or circulating; standing still; stagnant water
42. jazz imp____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
43. gu____a coins *n.* a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic
44. m__h larva *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
45. a det____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
46. imp____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
47. g__b of honey *n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance

ANSWERS: 37. collier, 38. disastrous, 39. glob, 40. bloc, 41. stagnant, 42. improvisation, 43. guinea, 44. moth, 45. determinant, 46. improvisation, 47. glob

48. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
49. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
50. deputy ma_____l *n.* a military officer of high rank or a person in charge of organizing or leading a parade or public event; a law enforcement official or officer responsible for maintaining order and enforcing regulations; (verb) to organize, arrange, or gather together resources, information, or people in a deliberate and systematic manner
51. pro_____ist agenda *adj.* relating to or advocating for policies that protect domestic industries from foreign competition through tariffs, trade barriers, or restrictions on imports; (noun) someone who believes in and promotes such policies
52. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
53. tr_____ry money *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
54. a potted dw__f tree *n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star

ANSWERS: 48. aft, 49. determinant, 50. marshal, 51. protectionist, 52. opportune, 53. treasury, 54. dwarf

55. gu___a pig *n.* a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic
56. pro_____te guidelines *v.* to make known or announce officially; to publicly declare or communicate a law, rule, belief, or idea
57. ideological div_____ce *n.* the act or process of separating and moving in different directions; a difference or variance between two or more things or ideas; a deviation from a common or shared path or goal
58. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
59. lib_____ze drug laws *v.* to make something more liberal, open, or permissive, typically in terms of laws, regulations, or social practices, allowing greater freedom, flexibility, or tolerance
60. a wise old dw__f *n.* a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
61. co_____e themselves solely *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
62. qualified for an el_____r *n.* a person who has the right to vote in an election
63. make an enl_____ed decision *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

ANSWERS: 55. guinea, 56. promulgate, 57. divergence, 58. aft, 59. liberalize, 60. dwarf, 61. confine, 62. elector, 63. enlightened

64. al_____ng news *adj.* causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing
65. sac_____ct tradition *adj.* considered to be holy and deserving of respect and reverence
66. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
67. fight against au_____cy *n.* a form of government in which one person has unlimited power and authority; a system of government in which a ruler or ruling class holds absolute power and controls all aspects of society
68. enl_____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
69. have dis_____us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
70. presidential el_____r *n.* a person who has the right to vote in an election

ANSWERS: 64. alarming, 65. sacrosanct, 66. optimism, 67. autocracy, 68. enlightened, 69. disastrous, 70. elector

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She squeezed a _____ of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.
n. a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
2. The country decided to join the economic _____ to benefit from the trade agreements.
n. a group of countries or political parties that have similar interests or goals and often act together
3. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
4. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
5. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.
adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
6. The town's economy was largely dependent on the _____ industry.
n. a coal miner or worker in the coal industry; a ship that transports coal
7. The government implemented _____ policies to promote domestic industries.
adj. relating to or advocating for policies that protect domestic industries from foreign competition through tariffs, trade barriers, or restrictions on imports;
(noun) someone who believes in and promotes such policies

ANSWERS: 1. glob, 2. bloc, 3. determinant, 4. improvisation, 5. disastrous, 6. collier, 7. protectionist

8. The animal was _____ in a small cage.

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

9. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

10. The _____ water in the pond is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

adj. not flowing or circulating; standing still; stagnant water

11. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

12. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

13. Two-percent interest will _____ on your savings account.

v. (of a benefit or sum of money) to increase or accumulate in number or amount over a period of time

14. The event organizer appointed a professional _____ to manage the flow of traffic.

n. a military officer of high rank or a person in charge of organizing or leading a parade or public event; a law enforcement official or officer responsible for maintaining order and enforcing regulations; (verb) to organize, arrange, or gather together resources, information, or people in a deliberate and systematic manner

ANSWERS: 8. confined, 9. enlightened, 10. stagnant, 11. opportune, 12. optimism, 13. accrue, 14. marshal

15. The _____ period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.
adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
16. The protracted war nearly depleted the country's _____.
n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
17. He was a _____ leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.
adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
18. The government issued a decree to _____ new laws regarding environmental conservation.
v. to make known or announce officially; to publicly declare or communicate a law, rule, belief, or idea
19. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.
n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
20. As tectonic plates _____ new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.
v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
21. The tradition of the annual family reunion is _____ and must be upheld.
adj. considered to be holy and deserving of respect and reverence
22. The cost of the antique vase is three _____.
n. a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic

ANSWERS: 15. postwar, 16. treasury, 17. charismatic, 18. promulgate, 19. troop, 20. diverge, 21. sacrosanct, 22. guineas

23. The ____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.
n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
24. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
25. The ____ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.
adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
26. The _____ planet Pluto is much smaller than earth and orbits the sun.
n. a person or animal that is much smaller than usual or expected for its type; a celestial body, especially a planet, that is smaller and less massive than a star
27. The _____ cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.
n. a person who has the right to vote in an election
28. The cleaning crew had to _____ the stubborn stain from the carpet using a specialized cleaner
v. to erase or obliterate something completely; to make something disappear or become less prominent
29. He was punished because he contravened a _____ of God.
n. a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority
30. The _____ in opinions among the team members led to a delay in completing the project.
n. the act or process of separating and moving in different directions; a difference or variance between two or more things or ideas; a deviation from a common or shared path or goal

ANSWERS: 23. moth, 24. industrious, 25. aft, 26. dwarf, 27. elector, 28. efface, 29. commandment, 30. divergence

31. He is regarded as a passionate social _____.

n. a person who makes changes to a system or law to improve it

32. The sudden rise in crime rates in our neighborhood is quite _____.

adj. causing concern or apprehension; causing a feeling of danger, harm, or emergency; unsettling or disturbing

33. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

34. The government decided to _____ trade policies to boost economic growth.

v. to make something more liberal, open, or permissive, typically in terms of laws, regulations, or social practices, allowing greater freedom, flexibility, or tolerance

35. An _____ with no democratic system in a place ruled the country.

n. a form of government in which one person has unlimited power and authority; a system of government in which a ruler or ruling class holds absolute power and controls all aspects of society

ANSWERS: 31. reformer, 32. alarming, 33. sentimental, 34. liberalize, 35. autocracy